

A circular black ink stamp from the Intellectual Property Office (IPO). The text "IPO" is at the top, "JUN 23 2003" is in the center, and "PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE" is around the bottom edge.

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Group Art Unit: 2873

Examiner: T.THOMPSON

For : LENS BARREL

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, § 1.97~~§ 1.98~~, and supplemental to the Information Disclosure Statements filed in the instant application on March 8, 2002 and May 23, 2003, Applicants hereby call the following documents to the Examiner's attention:

- (1) U.S. Patent No. 4,227,792 to RENTSCHLER, issued on October 14, 1980;
- (2) U.S. Patent No. 6,089,760 to TERADA, issued on July 18, 2000;
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 5,892,998 to KODAIRA et al., issued on April 6, 1999;
- (4) U.S. Patent No. 6,125,237 to PARK, issued on September 26, 2000;
- (5) U.S. Patent No. 4,426,145 to HASHIMOTO, issued on January 17, 1984;
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 4,839,680 to AMADA et al., issued on June 13, 1989;
- (7) U.S. Patent No. 4,922,274 to YAMAMOTO et al., issued on May 1, 1990; and
- (8) U.S. Patent No. 6,176,627 to SUH, issued on January 23, 2001.

The above-mentioned documents were cited by the Examiner in related co-pending, commonly assigned patent application Nos. 10/101,150 (i.e., documents (1) and (2)); 10/101,062 (i.e., documents (3) and (4)); and 10/101,149 (i.e., documents (5)-(8)). Because these related co-pending, commonly assigned U.S. Patent Applications were cited in the Information Disclosure Statement filed in the instant application on May 23, 2003, Applicant presumes that the Examiner has considered the above-noted documents during his review of the files of related Application Nos. 10/101,150; 10/101,062; and 10/101,149.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the above materials and cite the patent documents. Copies of the above-noted documents are attached and have been listed on a PTO-1449 Form which is also attached hereto. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to initial the appropriate spaces on the attached PTO-1449 Form and to return a copy of the Form to the Applicant with the next official communication in the present application to confirm consideration of these documents.

Applicant notes that an Office Action on the merits has issued in the instant application, and thus, a check in the amount of \$180.00 is attached to ensure consideration of this statement and the submitted materials. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge payment of any necessary additional fees associated with this communication or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0089.

P21185.A03

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned  
at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,  
Hiroshi NOMURA et al.

Will. H. Lyall Reg. No.  
Bruce H. Bernstein 41,568  
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June 18, 2003  
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